



Ready to Protect, Proud to Serve

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# Media Release



Roberto A. Villaseñor

Chief of Police

Date: November 19, 2011

Contact: Sgt. Matt Ronstadt

Corrected Version

## FATAL COLLISION SOUTH HOUGHTON ROAD AND EAST RITA ROAD

On November 18, 2011 at approximately 9:40 p.m., the Tucson Police Department responded to a reported collision involving an SUV and an ATV just north of the intersection of South Houghton Road and East Rita Road. Officers from Operations Division East responded and found that the passenger of the ATV, a **22-year of female**, had suffered life-threatening injuries. She was transported by medivac helicopter to a local trauma center, where she is in critical but stable condition. The operator of the ATV, identified as **34-year old Fred L. Champlain**, of Tucson, was deceased at the scene. Next of kin have been notified.

Detectives from the Traffic Investigations Unit responded to continue the investigation at the scene. Detectives examined roadway evidence and collected roadway evidence. They have determined that Champlain was operating a 2003 Yamaha ATV southbound on Houghton, approaching Rita with a female acquaintance riding as a passenger. A short distance north of the intersection, a 2007 Chevrolet Suburban driven by a 39-year old male exited the parking lot of a private shopping center eastbound in preparation for turning northbound on Houghton, pulling in front of the ATV. The ATV struck the driver's side of the Suburban. Champlain struck the side of the Suburban and the female victim was thrown some distance from the impact point. Both were wearing helmets. The driver of the Suburban was transported via ambulance to a local hospital with minor injuries.

There were no preliminary indications that alcohol was a factor. The investigation is ongoing to determine if speed was a factor, and to determine fault. No citations have been issued or arrests made at this time.

Detectives are

Fatalities year to date:

For 2010 – 38 Total

11 Pedestrian

3 Bicycle

7 Motorcycle

For 2011 – 40 Total

13 Pedestrian

2 Bicycle

11 Motorcycle

For accommodations; materials in accessible formats; foreign language interpreters; and/or materials in a language other than English, please contact the Tucson Police Department Public Information Office at (520) 791-4852 or (520) 791-2639 for TDD at least five (5) business days in advance. Para arreglos; materiales en formatos accesibles; interpretes de idioma extranjero; y/o materiales en otro idioma que no sea inglés, por favor comunicarse al Departamento de la Policía de Tucson a la sección de Información Pública al (520) 791-4852 o (520) 791-2639 para TDD por lo menos con cinco (5) días hábiles de anticipación.